

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A digital signal recording method of recording a digital signal inputted from a digital interface, comprising the steps of:

with respect to first, second, and third information as information to protect a copyright,

adding said first and second information to said digital signal;

deciding a value of fourth information as said information to protect the copyright from a combination of said first, second, and third information when said third information is inputted from said digital interface together with said digital signal; and

recording said fourth information onto a recording medium.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said first information is information to control a copy restriction of said digital signal, said second information is information to perform a control about whether said digital signal is protected against illegal use or not, said third information is information to indicate whether said digital signal has been encrypted or not, and said fourth information is information to control the copy restriction of said digital signal recorded on said recording medium.

3. A digital signal reproducing method of outputting a digital signal reproduced from a recording

medium from a digital interface, comprising the steps of:

with respect to first, second, and fourth information as information to protect a copyright,

adding said first and second information to said digital signal;

deciding a value of third information as said information to protect the copyright from a combination of said first, second, and fourth information when said fourth information is recorded onto the recording medium; and

outputting said third information from said digital interface.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said first information is information to control a copy restriction of said digital signal, said second information is information to perform a control about whether said digital signal is protected against illegal use or not, said fourth information is information to control the copy restriction of said digital signal recorded on said recording medium, and said third information is information to indicate whether said digital signal has been encrypted or not.

5. A digital signal recording and reproducing method of recording a digital signal inputted from a digital interface onto a recording medium and outputting the digital signal reproduced from said recording medium from said digital interface,

comprising the steps of:

with respect to first, second, third, and fourth information as information to protect a copyright, adding said first and second information to said digital signal; inputting and outputting said third information to/from said digital interface together with said digital signal; and when said fourth information is stored onto said recording medium, in case of recording said digital signal, deciding a value of said fourth information from a combination of said first, second, and third information, and recording said fourth information onto said recording medium; and

in case of reproducing said digital signal, deciding a value of said third information from a combination of said first, second, and fourth information and outputting said third information from said digital interface.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein said first information is information to control a copy restriction of said digital signal, said second information is information to perform a control about whether said digital signal is protected against illegal use or not, said third information is information to indicate whether said digital signal has been encrypted or not, and said fourth information is information to control the copy restriction of said digital signal recorded on said recording medium.

7. A digital signal recording and reproducing